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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

VERVOORT, Marcel B.; BRULE VAN DEN, Adrianus J. and
MIDDELDORP, Jaap M.

Serial Number: To be assigned Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Filed: August 31, 2000

Examiner: To be assigned

For: OLIGONUCLEOTIDES FOR THE AMPLIFICATION AND DETECTION OF
EPSTEIN BARR VIRUS (EBV) NUCLEIC ACID

Corresponding to: PCT/EP99/01392, filed March 1, 1999

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

August 31, 2000

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the fee in the above-identified
application, please make the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (amended) [Method of] A method for identifying chronic EBV associated diseases [optionally present in a sample of an individual suspected of or at risk for carrying an EBV associated disease] by determining the gene transcription pattern for at least one [or more] gene [sequence(s)] sequence, the expression of said [sequence(s)] at least one sequence being characteristic for respective EBV associated diseases, by amplifying a target sequence within at least one [or more] respective [RNA(s)] RNA transcribed from said at least one gene [sequence(s)] sequence,

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